

What is claimed is:

1. A portable information terminal including a camera section capable of imaging or shooting an image, said portable information terminal comprising:

a first body including said camera section;

5 a second body connected to said first body so as to turn/rotate in relation to said first body;

a detection means for detecting an exposure of said camera section to outside of said portable information terminal and for detecting a relation between a vertical direction of an image based on an image signal generated by said camera section and a vertical direction of an actual image;

10 a image control means for controlling imaging using said camera section according to a detection result of said detection means; and

an inversion means for inverting the vertical direction of the image based on the image signal generated by said camera section when said detecting means detects un-matching between the vertical direction of the image based on the image signal and the vertical direction of the actual image.

2. The portable information terminal according to claim 1, wherein said detection means comprises:

20 a first detection means for detecting turning of said first body in a direction in which the vertical direction of the image based on the image signal generated by said camera section and the vertical direction of the actual image match with each other; and

25 a second detection means for detecting turning of said first body in a direction in which the vertical direction of the image based on the image signal generated by said camera section and the vertical direction of the actual image are opposite to each other.

3. The portable information terminal according to claim 1, further comprising an inquiry means for inquiring a user whether the user ends

imaging processing using said camera section, wherein

said imaging control means performs said inquiring to the user by
controlling said inquiry means when said camera section is detected as not
exposed by said detection means, and said imaging control means ends the
5 imaging processing according to a result of said inquiry.

4. A portable information terminal including a camera section capable of
imaging or shooting an image, said portable information terminal comprising:

a first body including said camera section;

10 a second body connected to said first body so as to turn/rotate in relation
to said first body;

a detection means for detecting a position of said camera section,
wherein said detection means detects: (a) an off position on which said camera
section is not available for use, and (b) an inverting position on which said
15 camera section inverts an image signal generated by said camera section;

a controlling means for controlling imaging using said camera section
according to a detection result of said detection means; and

an inversion means for inverting said image signal when said detecting
means detects said inverting position.

20 5. The portable information terminal according to claim 4, wherein said
detection means comprising:

a first detection means for detecting said off position on which said
camera section is not available for use; and

25 a second detection means for detecting said inverting position by
detecting a position of said first body in relation to said second body in a
direction in which the vertical direction of the image based on the image signal
generated by said camera section and the vertical direction of the actual image
are opposite to each other.

6. The portable information terminal according to claim 4, further comprising an informing means for informing a status of ending imaging processing using said camera section, wherein said controlling means performs said informing by controlling said informing means when said camera section is
5 detected as not available for use by said detection means, and said imaging control means is capable of ending said imaging processing.

7. A portable information terminal including a camera section capable of imaging or shooting an image, said portable information terminal comprising:

10 a first body including said camera section;

a second body connected to said first body so as to rotate in relation to said first body;

a detector for detecting a position of said camera section, wherein said detector detects: (a) an off position on which said camera section is not available
15 for use, and (b) an inverting position on which said camera section inverts an image signal generated by said camera section upside down;

a controller controlling imaging using said camera section according to a detection result of said detector; and

an image inverter inverting said image signal when said detecting
20 means detects said inverting position.